

§ 1427.1082 Basic standards.

Unless otherwise provided in this subpart, each warehouseman and each of the warehouses owned or operated by such warehouseman for which CCC approval is sought for the storage or handling of CCC-owned or -loan commodities shall meet the following standards:

(a) The warehouseman shall:

(1) Be an individual, partnership, corporation, association, or other legal entity engaged in the business of storing or handling for hire, or both, the applicable commodity. The warehouseman, if a corporation, shall be authorized by its charter to engage in such business,

(2) Have a current and valid license for the kind of storage operation for which the warehouseman seeks approval if such a license is required by State or local laws or regulations,

(3) Have a net worth which is the greater of \$25,000 or the amount which results from multiplying the maximum storage capacity of the warehouse (the total number of bales of cotton or cotton linters which the warehouse can accommodate when stored in the customary manner) times ten (10) dollars per bale. The net worth need not exceed \$250,000. If the calculated net worth exceeds \$25,000, the warehouseman may satisfy any deficiency in net worth between the \$25,000 minimum requirement and such calculated net worth by furnishing bond (or acceptable substitute security) meeting the requirements of § 1427.1083,

(4) Have available sufficient funds to meet ordinary operating expenses,

(5) Have satisfactorily corrected, upon request by CCC, any deficiencies in the performance of any storage agreement with CCC,

(6) Maintain accurate and complete inventory and operating records,

(7) Use only card type warehouse receipts which are pre-numbered and pre-punched or such other document as CCC may prescribe,

(8) Have available at the warehouse adequate and operable firefighting equipment for the type of warehouse and applicable stored commodity, and

(9) Have a work force and equipment available to provide adequate storage and handling service.

(b) The warehouseman, officials, or supervisory employees of the warehouseman in charge of the warehouse operation shall have the necessary experience, organization, technical qualifications, and skills in the warehousing business regarding the applicable commodities to enable them to provide proper storage and handling services.

(c) Warehouseman, officials and each of the supervisory employees of the warehouseman in charge of the warehouse operation shall:

(1) Have a satisfactory record of integrity, judgment, and performance, and

(2) Be neither suspended nor debarred under applicable CCC suspension and debarment regulations.

(d) The warehouse shall:

(1) Be of sound construction, in good state of repair, and adequately equipped to receive, handle, store, preserve, and deliver the applicable commodity,

(2) Be under the control of the contracting warehouseman at all times, and

(3) Not be subject to greater than normal risk of fire, flood, or other hazards.

[44 FR 67085, Nov. 23, 1979, as amended by Amdt. 3, 50 FR 16455, Apr. 26, 1985]

§ 1427.1083 Bonding requirements for net worth.

A bond furnished by a warehouseman under this subpart must meet the following requirements:

(a) Such bond shall be executed by a surety which:

(1) Has been approved by the U.S. Treasury Department, and

(2) Maintains an officer or representative authorized to accept service of legal process and in the State where the warehouse is located.

(b) Such bond shall be on Form CCC-33, "Warehouseman's Bond", except that a bond furnished under State law (statutory bond) or under operational rules of nongovernmental supervisory agencies may be accepted in an equivalent amount as a substitute for a bond running directly to CCC if:

(1) CCC determines that such bond provides adequate protection to CCC.

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(2) It has been executed by a surety specified in paragraph (a) of this section or has a blanket rider and endorsement executed by such a surety with the liability of the surety under such rider or endorsement being the same as that of the surety under the original bond, and

(3) It is noncancellable for not less than ninety (90) days or includes a rider providing for not less than ninety (90) days' notice to CCC before cancellation. Excess coverage on a substitute bond for one warehouse will not be accepted or applied by CCC against insufficient bond coverage on other warehouses.

(c) Cash and negotiable securities offered by a warehouseman may be accepted by CCC in lieu of the equivalent amount of required bond coverage. Any such cash or negotiable securities accepted by CCC will be returned to the warehouseman when the period for which coverage was required has ended and there appears to CCC to be no liability under the storage agreement.

(d) A legal liability insurance policy may be accepted by CCC in lieu of the required amount of bond coverage provided such policy contains a clause or rider making the policy payable to CCC. CCC determines that it affords protection equivalent to a bond, and the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Department of Agriculture, approves it for legal sufficiency.

(e) An irrevocable letter of credit may be accepted by CCC in lieu of the required amount of bond coverage provided that the issuing bank is a commercial bank insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Such standby letter of credit shall be on Form CCC-33A, "Irrevocable Letter of Credit", or on such other form as may be specifically approved by the Director, KCCO, or the Director's designee.

[44 FR 67085, Nov. 23, 1979, as amended by Amdt. 3, 50 FR 16455, Apr. 26, 1985]

§ 1427.1084 Examination of warehouses.

Except as otherwise provided in this subpart, a warehouse must be examined by a person designated by CCC before it may be approved by CCC for the storage and handling of the commodity and periodically thereafter to deter-

mine its compliance with CCC's standards and requirements.

§ 1427.1085 Exceptions.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this report:

(a) The financial bond and original and periodic warehouse examination provisions of this subpart do not apply to any warehouseman approved or applying for approval for the storage and handling of cotton or cotton linters under CCC programs if the warehouse is licensed under the U.S. Warehouse Act for such commodity but a special examination shall be made of such warehouse whenever CCC determines such action is necessary.

(b) A warehouseman who has a net worth of at least \$25,000 but who fails, or whose warehouse fails, to meet one or more of the other standards of this subpart may be approved if:

(1) CCC determines that the warehouse services are needed and the warehouse storage and handling conditions provide satisfactory protection for the commodity,

(2) The warehouseman furnishes such additional bond coverage (or cash or acceptable negotiable securities or legal liability insurance policy) as may be prescribed by CCC.

[44 FR 67085, Nov. 23, 1979, as amended by Amdt. 3, 50 FR 16455, Apr. 26, 1985; 56 FR 11502, Mar. 19, 1991]

§ 1427.1086 Approval of warehouse, requests for reconsideration.

(a) CCC will approve a warehouse if it determines that the warehouse meets the standards set forth in this subpart. CCC will send a notice of approval to the warehouseman. Approval under this subpart, however, does not relieve the warehouseman of the responsibility for performing the warehouseman's obligations under any agreement with CCC or any other agency of the United States.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subpart:

(1) CCC will not approve the warehouse if CCC determines that the warehouse does not meet the standards set forth in this subpart, and

(2) CCC will send any notice of rejection of approval to the warehouseman. This notice will state the cause(s) for